



2014 Assessment and Accountability Information Meeting

Broadband Infrastructure Improvement Grant Process

**Cindy Kazanis, Director
Educational Data Management Division**



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State Superintendent
of Public Instruction

Overview

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- Timeline
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Background

Senate Bill 852 authorized \$26.7 million to the K-12 High Speed Network in **one-time funds** to:

- Assist school districts in enhancing their network connectivity, specifically the “last mile” connection in order for them to be successful during the 2014–15 computer-based assessments. To accomplish this work, the Broadband Improvement Grant (BIIG) was established.
- Prepare a Legislative Report on the statewide network infrastructure to, and within, schools in order to better understand the gaps and the resources needed to close them.



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Broadband Infrastructure Improvement Grant

Priority 1

Schools that are unable to administer the 2015 California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) computer-based assessment and are unable to improve their Internet connection due to certain conditions such as lack of broadband infrastructure, located in a hard-to-serve area, or lack of options from service providers.

Examples:

1. School did not administer the test due to inadequate “last mile” connectivity to the Internet.
2. School administered the test, but had to transport students to an off-site location due to an inadequate connection to the Internet.



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Broadband Infrastructure Improvement Grant (Cont.)

Priority 2

Schools that have very low Internet capacity and have limited options to improve their connections for the 2015 CAASPP computer based assessment.

Examples:

- 1) School administered the 2014 CAASPP Field Test, but only by shutting down all or virtually all other essential online activities such as business services and/or e-mail.
- 2) School administered the test, but only to a limited amount of students at one time due to low bandwidth to the Internet.
- 3) School administered the 2014 CAASPP Field Test, but the site does not have the capacity to test for 2015.
- 4) The existing connection is sufficient for the short term, but may restrict the 2015 CAASPP testing environment depending on enrollment, computing devices, and network utilization (connection is not scalable).



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Examples of Ineligible Site Scenarios:

1. School has adequate last mile connectivity, but lacks internal network capacity for students to access the online testing system.
2. School has adequate last mile connectivity, but has limited or no wireless access for students.
3. School did not administer the test because it does not have a sufficient number of devices.
4. The existing connection solution is sufficient at the present time and the school site has the ability to upgrade connectivity (fiber).



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Broadband Infrastructure Improvement Grant (Cont.)

Next Steps:

- Schools complete by September 30, “Self-Nomination / Site Information” form, at <http://k12hsn.fluidreview.com>
- Eligible sites will receive a request to submit a “Full Validation” form
- Confirmed applicants will re-visit <http://k12hsn.fluidreview.com> and complete “BIIG Validation Form,” including Letter of Agency
- Eligible sites will be ranked and scored
- Awardees accepting BIIG funds will need to provide signed assurances



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Statewide Report on Connectivity

- The report will include:
 - Assessment of local area network resources and wireless coverage within the school campus
 - Detailed estimate of the costs associated with upgrading Internet infrastructure
- Prepared in consultation with the California Department of Education and State Board of Education staff
- Due by March 1, 2015, to the Department of Finance, the Legislative Analyst's Office, and the budget committees of each house of the Legislature



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Timeline

Broadband Infrastructure Improvement Grant

September 2014: Pre-validation open, project planning

October 2014: Full validation, scoring and ranking of eligible sites

Fall 2014: Grant awards announced

Spring 2015: Project implementation

Statewide Report on Connectivity

August to December 2014: Data collection/needs assessment

Winter 2014/2015: Report development

March 1, 2015: Report released



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of Public Instruction

Contact Information

K-12 High Speed Network

Imperial County Office of Education

760-312-6227

biig@lists.k12hsn.org

<http://www.k12hsn.org/biig/>

Educational Data Management Division

California Department of Education

916-324-1214

edmd@cde.ca.gov